

An introduction to dyslexia and inclusive practice for CLD

Additional Support for Learning Overview

The Scottish Government want all children and young people to be able to get the most from the learning opportunities which are available to them, so that they can realise their full potential, in learning, in work, and in life.

Through [Curriculum For Excellence](#) and the '[Getting it right for every child](#)' approach the Scottish Government has set out its ambition for services provided to children and young people, and for their learning. An important part of the approach is the recognition that all children and young people are different. To enable them to reach their full potential some will need additional support.

A very wide range of factors may lead to children and young people having a need for additional support. These factors fall broadly into four overlapping themes: learning environment, family circumstances, disability or health need, and social and emotional factors highlighted in Figure 1 .

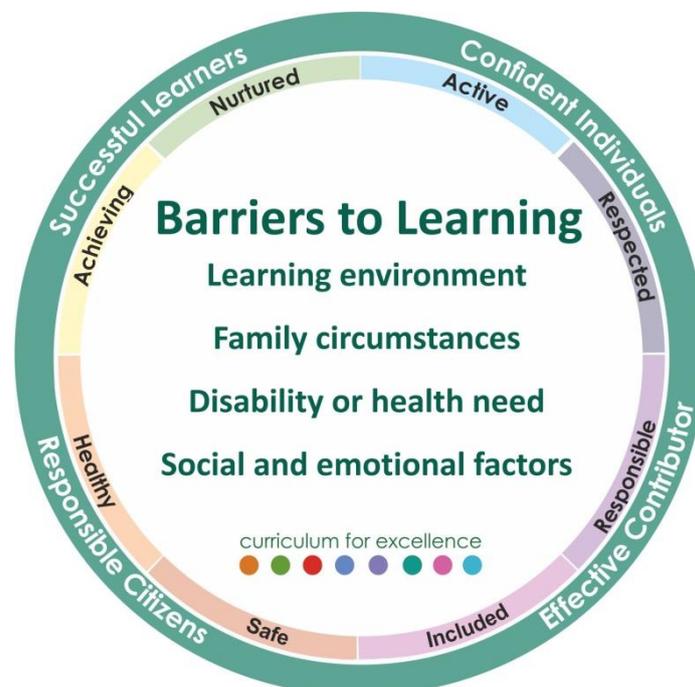


Figure 1 – Barriers to Learning

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The Additional Support for Learning legislation provides the framework underpinning the system in Scotland for supporting children and young people in their education, and their families. This framework is inclusive in its approach and is based on the concept of additional support needs. This term applies to children and young people who, for whatever reason, require additional support, long or short term, to help them make the most of education.

Additional support needs can be short or long term. For instance, additional support may be required for a child or young person who for example:

- is being bullied
- has behavioural or learning difficulties – (for example dyslexia)
- is deaf or blind
- is highly able
- is bereaved
- is not a regular attendee
- is looked after by a local authority.

Additional support needs can also overlap with disabilities under the Equality Duty Act 2010 if the impact is significant and will last for longer than a year - dyslexia can be included if the impact is significant as it is included within the protected characteristics of the 2010 Equality Duty Act.

The rights of children with additional support needs (ASN) and their parents have been strengthened through changes to the original 2004 Act introduced by the Additional Support for Learning Act 2009.

ASN Legislation

The Education (Additional Support for Learning) (Scotland) Act 2004 provides the legal framework for the provision of additional support for learning. The legislation was amended by the Education (Additional Support for Learning) (Scotland) Act

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2009. The Act is structured around the concept of support being needed for any reason, and for short or long term periods determined by the individual learning needs of the child or young person. The key duties on education authorities are to identify, make provision for, and review provision for the additional support needs of children and young people for whose education they are responsible.

The Act also places duties on education authorities, (and in certain circumstances health, social work and skills development Scotland) to work to plan and make joint provision for children and young people with complex or multiple additional support needs. Where their needs are significant, require support from education and another partner agency, and will last more than one year, children and young people may have a statutory co-ordinated support plan to bring together all of the support to be provided to meet their learning needs.

Further information

[The Scottish Government – Additional Support for Learning](#)

[Education Scotland – Inclusion and Equalities](#)

[Enquire](#)